

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PARM, SF, RH, XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS ON SOUTH AFRICA AND
RHODESIA

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL IO TRANSCRIPTION OF PRESIDENT'S
REMARKS AT AUGUST 23 NEWS CONFERENCE ON SOUTH AFRICAN
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NUCLEAR PROGRAM AND RHODESIA NEGOTIATIONS. THERE WERE NO
QUESTIONS ON EITHER POINT. WE ASSUME USIS WIRELESS FILE
WILL CARRY EXACT TEXT OF STATEMENT TOMORROW MORNING, BUT
WE FELT ADVANCE COPY MIGHT BE USEFUL.

2. SOUTH AFRICA: "IN RESPONSE TO OUR OWN INQUIRY AND THAT
OF OTHER NATIONS, SOUTH AFRICA HAS INFORMED US THEY DO NOT

HAVE AND DO NOT INTEND TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES FOR ANY PURPOSE, EITHER PEACEFUL OR AS A WEAPON; THAT THE KALAHARI TEST SITE THAT HAS BEEN IN QUESTION IS NOT DESIGNED TO TEST NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES AND THAT NO NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES TESTS WILL BE TAKEN IN SOUTH AFRICA -- NOW OR IN

THE FUTURE. WE APPRECIATE THIS COMMITMENT FROM SOUTH

AFRICA AND THIS INFORMATION AND WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION VERY CLOSELY. WE WILL ALSO RENEW OUR EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICA TO PLACE ALL THEIR NUCLEAR POWER PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND INSPECTION AND ENCOURAGE THEM,

ALONG WITH OTHER NATIONS, TO SIGN THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY."

3. RHODESIA: "IN OUR EFFORTS TO BRING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIA/ZIMBABWE CRISIS, WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO EVOLVE, ALONG WITH THE BRITISH, A FAIR PROPOSAL THAT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE FRONT LINE NATIONS AND THE NATIONALIST FORCES, TO THE RHODESIANS -- TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF RHODESIA -- TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND OTHERS; AND THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS IN LUSAKA BEGINNING FRIDAY; AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG, REPRESENTING THE U.S., AND FOREIGN MINISTER OWEN, UNCLASSIFIED

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REPRESENTING THE BRITISH, WILL BE MEETING WITH THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS IN LUSAKA ON SATURDAY, THE 27TH OF AUGUST. THERE THEY WILL GO OVER OUR PROPOSALS ON THE RHODESIAN QUESTION AND I BELIEVE THIS IS A POSITIVE STEP TOWARD A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THAT QUESTION. WE STILL HAVE A LOT OF ISSUES TO RESOLVE, BUT IT IS AN ENCOURAGING THING."

CHRISTOPHER

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